



BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 27, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS:

Georgia Hanigan, Commissioner, Payette County
Nate Marvin, Commissioner, Washington County
Tom Dale, Commissioner, Canyon County
Kelly Aberasturi, Commissioner, Owyhee County
Viki Purdy, Commissioner, Adams County
Sam Summers, MD, Physician Representative
Bryan Elliott, Commissioner, Gem County

STAFF MEMBERS:

Nikole Zogg, Doug Doney, Patty Foster, Katrina Williams, Carol Julius, Jaime Aanensen, Clay Roscoe, Chris Ellis, Tim Wright, Cristina Froude

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER -- CHAIR

Chairman Bryan Elliott called the business meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Bryan Elliott asked for additional agenda items. No additions to the agenda were noted.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting attendees participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present for the comment period.

NEW EMPLOYEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division administrators introduced new employees.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JUNE BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

Board members reviewed meeting minutes from the meeting held July 23, 2019.

MOTION: Commissioner Marvin moved to approve the July 23, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Hanigan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT:

Patty Foster presented the July 2019 financial report. She reported that expenditures were lower than expected due to the Lifeways invoice for July not being received until a few days ago. This payment will be reflected in the August financial report. She explained that she has encouraged Lifeways to submit their invoices on a consistent basis.

GIS

Tim Wright and Chris Ellis discussed the new GIS map functions and capabilities. The program can be used to generate maps and can include items such as roads within the county. Data within an excel spreadsheet can be imported and mapped. Specifically, Environmental Health staff are using the GIS map to generate maps for land development and septic systems. The GIS can also be used as new septic permits are being issued to help identify busy development areas. The program provides a visual representation of growth.

This software program requires the user to build the queries and allows field evaluations to be performed without a survey and new subdivision developments to be marked. The program has also been used to map out the licensed food establishments by zip code.

Chris explained that he hopes to work with vector control when mosquito traps are set. If the data can be made more uniform then it can be all put into a spatial representation.

FOOD MERIT AWARDS

CJ Soltis, Environmental Health Supervisor, discussed the upcoming food merit awards. In the past SWDH has hosted a large awards ceremony recognizing the merit winners. This year the SWDH staff will be going to each establishment to present awards. Board members are invited to come and assist or watch the award presentation.

VACCINE REQUIREMENTS LETTER OF SUPPORT REQUEST

Nikki explained that immunization rules are up for review. The Idaho Immunization Coalition reached out to the health districts and asked for letters of support for keeping the current vaccination requirements. Nikki presented a draft letter of support to Board members to ask for guidance to ensure she represents the sentiments of the Board in stating that SWDH and its Board supports the state's vaccination requirements. Board members discussed the central core group resistant to immunizations. Nikki responded that there are some groups who are consistently anti-vaccination.

Dr. Summers recommended sending the letter and personally agrees with the requirements. Board members discussed supporting the letter and the majority were in support but they were not in unanimous agreement.

CLINIC SERVICES UPDATE

WIC

Carol Julius provided an update on clinic services. WIC numbers continue to decline. This decline is attributed to higher employment rates and also still reflects some fears about immigration. In July of this year we had served 5,700 WIC participants. At this point last year in July we had served 6,300. 10 years ago there were 9,600 participants. Carol explained that WIC is set up as a pop-up service in places such as Lifeways in Nampa. WIC is also available in smaller clinic areas such as Farmway.

Benefits for WIC will be available via electronic benefits transfer in Canyon County and all of our counties beginning September 12. The electronic debit card will be much more customer friendly compared to the big pink WIC paper checks.

Athena/EMR update

Clay Roscoe provided an update on the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system update. He continues to look into Athena. He explained the clinic is actively working on the no-show rate which is a universal challenge. Athena's two-point contact system will be expanded to four: a call reminder, a text reminder, and a warm reminder beginning with a text reminder that the client must acknowledge. Patients depend on those reminders.

Athena is among EMR systems that were investigated and vetted when SWDH and Central District Health considered switching two years ago but instead chose to continue with the current EMR and implement overdue updates and enhancements. Central District Health chose to go to the new platform and SWDH chose to go to optimization. The optimization improved some components but also dis-improved some important components.

Clay explained that he has met with a sales representative who discussed the elements of Athena. Athena will roll into messaging and scheduling as well as additional services we do not have now such as validation of insurance eligibility.

Home Visitation and possible Medicaid reimbursement

The Parents as Teachers program and Nurse Family Partnership may be eligible to receive reimbursement through Medicaid.

Challenge: Hepatitis A Outbreak

Clay and Carol discussed a small funding request presented to help go out to the outer areas with the Hepatitis A vaccine.

Medicaid expansion

Carol and Clay discussed shifting focus toward primary care and behavioral health for the expansion which should gear up in November. They explained staff are working to be able to help our customers sign on and get the application completed for Medicaid. The form is fairly detailed and time consuming.

Clay further discussed the approach of the expansion of Medicaid and the need to identify how SWDH could be impacted with this expansion. Southwest District Health previously had patient centered medical home (PCMH) status which is the method for identifying patients who are eligible. Right now we are operating with a single provider. It is important to work to understand if we can continue doing public health focused care or do we need to move toward full spectrum primary care delivery and what does that entail?

Nikki explained that the current community health needs assessments can be analyzed to try to identify gaps and needs. St. Luke's just finished their community health needs assessment. She will attend a brainstorming meeting scheduled this afternoon with St. Luke's and Family Medicine Residence of Idaho (FMRI).

Looking at different ways to delivery services to the community needs to be explored. This delivery may be a mix of maintaining physical presence where we are at but continuing to partner with our other organizations to co-locate or do mobile care or home care.

Board members discussed the scheduling challenges of the outer clinics and the fact that sometimes the clinic schedule does not accommodate client scheduling needs. Commissioner Elliott mentioned that in Emmett much of the Hispanic population goes to Terry Reilly Health Services locations because they can go anytime.

BUILDING/SIDING PROJECT UPDATE

One quote for architectural services for repair of the stucco structural repair has been received and Doug expects one more quote for these services to be received soon. The architectural services bid is approximately \$66,000 for the architectural involvement to draw up plans and work with the contractor to ensure work complies with the project specs.

Board members discussed the advantages of bringing an architect into this process as well as the involvement of a structural engineer. Board members directed Doug to forego the architectural consultant and identify a project manager to oversee the process. The project manager would represent the interests of SWDH and will ensure the project is being completed correctly.

Brian M. will let the other company know that they do not need to submit a proposal for architectural services. Board members asked that contracts be brought to the Board before being signed.

CRISIS CENTER UPDATE

Cristina Froude provided an update on the Western Idaho Community Crisis Center (WICCC). The crisis center is still in the process of moving forward with credentialing and working with payers to implement reimbursement. To be eligible for reimbursement a site survey from Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) may be required. Work to secure third party payer reimbursement continues through bi-weekly meetings with Lifeways and a consultant.

Cristina is also working on some quarterly reporting issues. Initially there was a thought of having these reports available monthly. After reviewing the quarterly crisis center reports other crisis centers are producing she anticipates moving to a quarterly report format.

The advisory committee for the Western Idaho Community Crisis Center is being formed and the first meeting will be September 11, 2019.

A letter will go out this week to discuss proposed reduction of budgets to the Crisis Center. For Fiscal year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021 there will be a reduction of \$2 million across the board for all of the crisis centers. The first cut would go into effect in January 2020 and the next round of cuts will be implemented in July 2020. The letter from IDHW will be more detailed with more information so we know what amount of reduction Region 3's crisis center will be. The reduction in funding will lead to a sustainability discussion for the crisis center sooner than anticipated.

SWDH SERVICES

Nikki and Katrina asked for Board member input on how to help push out the word in their communities about the full spectrum of services SWDH provides. The health huddle meetings have discussed outreach opportunities and there is a small internal team strategizing on how best to coordinate and consistently attend community outreach events.

EMPLOYEE CONCERNS

Board members discussed concerns an employee recently brought to a board member. Board members talked about the importance of following the organizational hierarchy and encouraging employees to communicate with their supervisors and managers. Board members agree it is important that staff know the Board of Health supports Nikki as director and suggested the possibility of writing a letter in support of Nikki. Board members also agree meeting individually with employees to receive input about and discuss disgruntlement is discouraged.

Nikki thanked Board members for the discussion and support. She will continue to keep the Board informed. She recognizes there are some staff that are dissatisfied and explained she will do the best she can to hear them, answer their concerns, and explain why.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Board meeting time

Nikki asked board members to consider a later start time year-round rather than just winter months to allow better travel time for the board's Adams County representative. She asked if the board would entertain beginning an hour later as a normal schedule. Several board members have scheduling conflicts that will arise with a later start time. Board members discussed how to best accommodate Commissioner Purdy's schedule and provided guidance to Nikki to continue the meeting schedule as stated with winter start times of 10:30 a.m. Zoom video conferencing or conference phone call in capabilities are available as an alternative to travel.

Public Health Forum for Elected Officials – October 22 2019

SWDH will host a public health symposium for elected officials. The symposium is scheduled for October 22, 2019 from 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m. following the Board of Health meeting. Invitations will be emailed out in the next few weeks. Anticipated topics for round table discussion include:

- Medicaid expansion
- Tobacco taxes and vaping epidemic
- Western Idaho Community Crisis Center
- Home visiting programs
- Sexual health education
- Western Idaho Community Health Collaborative

FY2020 Supplemental request restriction/FY2021 budget submissions

The Governor sent out notices of projected revenue changes and has placed restrictions on supplemental budget requests for state agencies. Southwest District Health received clarification from the Governor's office that this does not impact SWDH as an independent agency; however, it may impact employee merit increases. We anticipate there will be different recommendations on pay increases than have been seen the last few years.

Our agency does have pending additional funding requests for home visiting and also anticipates asking for another year of funding to help support the Western Idaho Community Health Collaborative.

Director Salary Letter Revision

The Governor's Office sent a letter to health district directors implementing a mandated pay increase schedule for district directors. Since the last board meeting, all of the district directors met and opted to put one letter forward if each district's board shared this concern and wanted to voice their concern and request for reconsideration of the Governor's action. Nikki just heard back yesterday that all boards unanimously support sending a letter requesting reconsideration of the Governor's decision.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved as written:



Nikole Zogg
Secretary to the Board



Bryan Elliott
Chairman

Dated: September 17, 2019